EXTRA EXTRA

DEMOCRATIC

GERMAN REPORT

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"LIQUIDATION INC."

U.S. Money, Weapons for S.S. Murder Gang

The U. S. authorities in West Germany have raised, trained, armed and financed a secret terrorist organisation which plans to "liquidate" leading Social Democrats and trade unionists.

Details of this organisation were uncovered by the local West German police of Hessen Province, American Zone, and announced by Georg August Zinn, Prime Minister of the province, who was himself one of the leading Social Democrats on the list.

The police arrested the ring-leaders of the gang, which described itself as "Technical Organisation of the Federation of German Youth".

The arrested men, mainly former S. S. officers, were all released by the police on the instructions of the Federal authorities. "This organisation was established on the orders of the occupation authorities and does not fall under German jurisdiction" the Federal Prosecutor stated, ordering their release.

Evidence was also discovered of the existence of a super-secret organisation entitled "Operation West Berlin" which operated attacks on the territory of the German Democratic Republic. Members of the organisation had also been trained in parachute jumping by the U. S. Air Force, it was ascertained.

"AMERICANS IMPLICATED"

UNITED PRESS

The American news agency United Press confirmed on October 10th that the "Liquidation Incorporated" gang was trained and financed by the Americans. A news item circulated to German newspapers on that date by United Press stated:

"The American High Commission has been aware for two years that German partisans were being financed and trained by an American intelligence agency. High Commissioner Donnelly conferred secretly all day Friday with Lieutenant General Truscott, chief of American intelligence in Germany, and Lieutenant General Eddy, Commander in Chief of the American Forces in Europe."

The London "Times" correspondent in Bonn cabled his paper on the same day:

"It is certain that Mr Donnelly had no knowledge of the existence of such an organisation"

YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED

By the Editor

In this special issue we give you full details of a plot to murder in cold blood leaders of the Social Democratic and Communist Parties in West Germany.

The murder gang was organised, financed, and armed by a branch of American Military Government.

The details given on these pages cannot be brushed off as "allegations from Moscow", or "Red Propaganda". The facts were given by Georg August Zinn, Prime Minister of Hessen Province in the American Zone, a right-wing Social Democrat who up to date has always cooperated with the American authorities.

The full details of this murder gang, with its plans for sabotage in the German Democratic Republic as well as murder in West Germany, confirm from a West German source the charges made by General Chuikov, Chairman of the Soviet Control Commission, who demanded a few days ago that the western allies should close down the sabotage and spy centres in West Berlin.

The facts show how right the German Democratic Republic has been to take special security measures along the demarcation line throught Germany; and how necessary it has been to establish and train efficient police forces to protect the new and democratic Germany which is being built in the east.

The disclosures show too how ruthlessly the American circles which are driving towards a new war are ready to act in West Germany against anybody who might faintly be suspected of "Un-Americanism".

The murder list, given on another page, includes names ranging from the left to the right of the opposition in West Germany. A similar list in England would include the names of Herbert Morrison and Clement Attlee as well as Harry Pollitt and Aneusin Bevan; in the United States John L. Lewis and even William Green would be on an equivalent list alongside Paul Robeson and Eugene Dennis.

The disclosures will undoubtedly lead to a strengthening of the unity of the working class and all people opposed to war in West Germany.

But the lessons of "Liquidation Inc." are not confined to Germany. Are you sure that the American occupation authorities in your country have not established a similar organisation?

IS YOUR NAME ON THE LIQUIDATION LIST?

Report on the Murder Gang

SOCIALIST PRIME MINISTER'S SPEECH

Here are the main points from the report on "Liquidation Inc." delivered by Prime Minister Zinn to the Provincial Parliament of Hessen, American Zone, on October 8th 1952:

"At the end of 1951 the chairman of the 'Federation of German Youth' (extreme right-wing youth group ed.) took part in the establishment of a secret organisation known as 'Technical Organisation of the Federation of German Youth'. This organisation was headed by a general staff. The '1 F' branch of this staff was the illegal 'intelligence corps' of the organisation.

"The head of this intelligence branch has confessed that an expert for liquidation worked under him.

"In Waldmichelbach in Odenwald (American Zone) the organisation purchased a house and grounds in which members went through a course of training described as 'partisan training'. Those taking the course received political instruction, and learned the use of weapons and tactics.

"The membership of the organisation is estimated to be between 1000 and 2000, most of the members being former officers of the Luftwaffe, the Wehrmacht and the S. S.

"Instruction was given in the use of German, Russian and American weapons, light machine guns, grenade throwers and explosives. In summer 1951 three courses in the use of light weapons and the use of explosives were held on a U. S. training ground.

"All this training was carried out with live ammunition and real explosives, and the persons taking part in the courses were issued with overalls and given false names.

HEADLINE OF THE YEAR

"GERMAN SABOTEURS BETRAY U.S. TRUST"

New York Times, October 10th 1952, headline on a story about "Liquidation Inc."

"They were isolated from the outside world during these courses and their civilian identity papers were taken away from them.

"The material seized by the police included expense accounts and budgets showing that the organisation disposed of considerable funds.

"The organisation received about 50,000 marks monthly, and in order to conceal the various activities a cover firm was founded. The money was payed by an American department to this firm disguised as payment for non-existent bills.

"Apart from the regular payments of 50,000 marks monthly the organisation received special funds for the establishment of the phoney firm, the purchase of the house in Waldmichelbach, and so on.

"The organisation had plans for intervention in internal politics. Branch '1 F', the intelligence branch, had the job of drawing up lists of persons who were

a) regarded by the Technical Service as politically untrustworthy in the case of military conflict with the Soviet Union,

b) opponents of a German defence contribution, the Bonn Treaty and the European Defence Community.

"According to the confession made by the head of this intelligence branch, these persons were to be 'put out of the way' on 'X-day'. He said that he and other leading members of the organisation understood this to mean extermination, by armed force if necessary.

"Material seized from this intelligence branch includes 15 card-index entries on Communist and some 80 cards on leading members of the Social Democratic Party of Germany.

"These cards include a detailed description of the persons concerned, and intimate biographical details. The members of the Social Democratic Party mentioned are alleged untruthfully to have had relations with the Communists.

"A list of about 120 leading Social Democrats, including the Chairman Erich Ollenhauer was also seized, but the card-index cards in this case were missing. According to the confessions made by the main plotters, a large part of the secret material has been destroyed. A portion was handed over to an American liaison officer, they stated.

"The money and the weapons were supplied to the organisation by an American who superintended the training courses, and he was supplied with carbon copies of the card-index entries.

"On October 2nd a representative of the American High Commission and of a certain branch of the American Army got into contact with me. They informed me that this organisation had been established, trained and financed as a 'resistance group' for the case of Russian occupation."

Who was on the murder list of "Liquidation Inc."?

Prominent names on the murder list drawn up by the American-inspired organisation included the following Social Democrats:

Ludwig Metzger, Education Minister of Hessen and Protestant lay leader; Max Brauer, Lord Mayor of Hamburg; Hinrich Kopf, Prime Minister of Lower Saxony, British Zone; Dr. Harald Koch, Member of the West German Parliament and outspoken opponent of the Bonn Treaty.

Others on the list included Gottlob Binder, chairman of the West German Railway Trades Union; Wilhelm Karl Gerst, Christian Democratic journalist who has played a leading part in the peace movement; Fritz Saenger, Editor-in-chief of the semi-official West German News Agency, and Oskar Mueller, Walter Fisch and Heinz Renner, all Communist members of the West German Parliament.

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"AMERICANS FORGED PAPERS"

More News of "Liquidation Inc"

(From our West German Correspondent)

Further details of the activities of "Liquidation Inc." have been supplied by members of the West German Police force who took part in the round-up of gang members. They state that the organisation included a special super-secret branch known as "Operation West Berlin" which was charged with the task of carrying out acts of sabotage and murder in East Germany.

This branch was supplied by the American Counter Intelligence Corps with forged identity papers similar to those issued to citizens of the German Democratic Republic, and members were trained by the American airforce in parachute jumping as well as in sabotage techniques.

Under interrogation members of this branch admitted that their activity in East Germany had been made extremely difficult by the security precautions taken by the German Democratic Republic during the summer, in particular by the tightening-up in control over traffic across the demarcation line between East and West Germany.

According to the same sources Erhard Peters, head of the murder gang, and allegedly a former Hitler Youth official, has been accomodated by the American authorities in an army installation, where the German police could not reach him for questioning. The leader of the intelligence branch of the organisation is Hans Otto, a former S. S. Obersturmfuehrer, first arrested and then released on American oders.

It was learned that the main officers of the organisation were arrested on September 18th. Twelve days later they were released on the instructions of the Federal Prosecutor's office, which stated: "This organisation was established on the orders of the occupation authorities and does not fall under German jurisdiction."

"Melodrama" says London "Times"

The London "Times" on October 9th, in a report from Bonn, called Zinn's disclosures "a highly melodramatic tale", and described the "Federation of German Youth" which organised the murder gang as "a highly reputable body, whose allegiance to the democratic cause is not in question."

On the same date an official spokesman of the West German Government in Bonn stated: "Prime Minister Zinn has given these episodes unnecessary emphasis by the way in which he made his disclosures."

The extreme right-wing Berlin newspaper "Tagesspiegel", which receives a large American subsidy, stated quite bluntly that it favoured more and better "partisans" such as those raised by the "Federation of German Youth". The "Tagesspiegel" stated on October 9th:

"Prime Minister Zinn should have paid heed to the actual international situation before he made his official declaration. In addition all defence elements, including such things as the training of partisans, must be brought under centralised control."

Ruhr Trade Unionists Warn Against Gang

The Ruhr District organisation of the West German Trade Unions warned on Sunday that the Federation of German Youth and its murder gangs aimed to smash the trade unions.

"This organisation is sponsored both by American circles and by very high German circles" a statement issued by the trade union organisation stated.

"The so-called Federation approached big Ruhr firms last September with the offer to build up effective factory squads, intended to eliminate the influence of the shop stewards and to oppress the workers."

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Adenauer Tries to Gag Opponents

The Adenauer Government has asked the West German Parliament to lift the immunity of 11 Communist Members of Parliament against whom courts in various parts of West Germany have brought charges ranging from slander to treason.

ORGANISATION CONSUL

(continued from p. 4)

Founder members of the O. C. were reactionary officers who had taken part in the murder of Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg in Berlin in January 1919. The organisation was responsible for the following political murders committed in the early 1920's:

Matthias Erzberger, one of the signatories of the Versailles Peace.
Foreign Minister Walter Rathenau, who signed the Rapallo Pact with the Soviet Union.
Dozens of less well known persons who worked for a peaceful Germany.

In addition members of O. C. tried to assassinate Philipp Scheidemann, former Social Democratic Prime Minister, and Maximilian Harden, leading liberal publicist.

The constitution of the O. C., which was brougt to light during a series of abortive trials of the murderers, included such articles as these:

"Our aim is to fight the anti-national Weimar Constitution.

"To hinder the disarmament laid down in the Versailles Treaty.

"To liquidate traitors."

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ORGANISATION CONSUL STRIKES AGAIN

By Our Hamburg Correspondent

Early this month nearly three hundred West German businessmen found a crude drawing of a man hanging on a gallows when they opened an anonymous letter in their morning mail.

In his hand the hanged man was holding a brief-case inscribed "West-Ost Schieber" (West East Smuggler). Accompanying the drawing was a short note:

"This is what is coming to you. O. C."

The men who opened the letters were the members of the "Association for Trade with the East", a thoroughly legal group of businessmen with their headquarters in Hamburg, British Zone. They knew what the initials "O. C." meant, for in the past few months members of the Association, and their chairman Dr. Ernst Moser, have got used to anonymous letters, threatening phone calls and worse, all identified by these initials.

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LARGE FUNDS

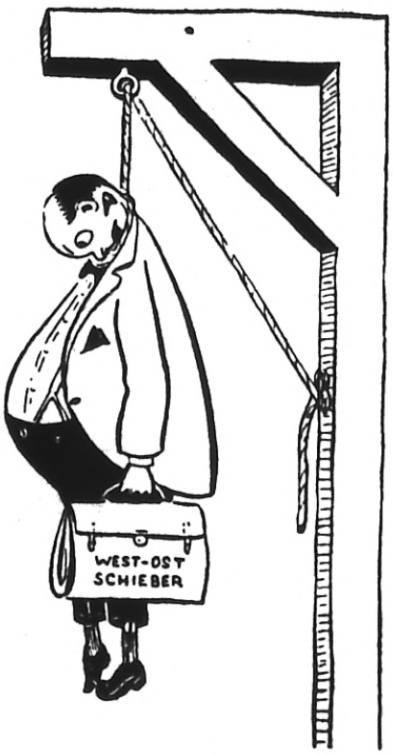
"O. C." is nothing more nor less than a revived version of "Organisation Consul", an extreme right-wing militarist organisation, which in the early twenties was responsible for the murder of leading liberal statesmen. Details of the pre-war "Organisation Consul" are given below.

The new edition of "Organisation Consul" which is obviously in possession of very large funds and a well-functioning intelligence branch, has been concentrating its fire upon those West German businessmen who endeavour to carry on trade with East Germany and East Europe in general.

The "Association for Trade With the East" is the most important body dealing with this trade, which has become more difficult in recent months owing to American imposed bans, and obstacles erected by the Bonn Government. The chairman of the Association, Dr. Ernst Moser, travels regularly to Berlin to arrange there contracts and delivery dates with East German firms.

The Association, and in particular its chairman, first came under concentrated fire about a year ago. In August 1951 a bomb exploded just outside an apartment in Hamburg which had until a few days previously been occupied by Dr. Moser. All the windows were broken, and the house itself was badly damaged.

Next day, an unknown man, speaking with an educated voice, telephoned the landlady in the damaged flat, introduced himself as the representative of "O. C." and apologised for the damage. It would not occur again, he assured the frightened woman.



"O.C.'s" Visiting Card

The cultured voice on the telephone has since then become a regular feature in Dr. Moser's life. Not long ago the telephone rang in his house, and his wife went to answer.

"Here is Organisation Consul" said the voice. "We are just warning you that we shall hang your husband, and make orphans of your children, if he goes on with this smuggling game. We have the most exact information about him. He took the 9: 11 train to Berlin to-night to make some new deals. This is a final warning."

A few days later, after Dr. Moser had returned from Berlin, a black Mercedes car purred up to the house where he lives. Two exceedingly well-dressed men got out, and handed a large dress carton to the maid, saying it was a "small present" for Dr. Moser.

If it had been a heavy package then Dr. Moser would have been suspicious, but it was quite light, so he opened it without taking any particular precautions. As he lifted the lid there was a rustling in the tissue-paper with which the box was filled, and a highly poisonous snake shot out. Only Dr. Moser's quick action prevented the snake from biting, probably fatally, his fourteen-year-old son who was standing by.

And so the tally of attacks and threats continues. Stinkbombs have been strewn several times in the Chile Haus, Hamburg, where the Association for Trade with the East has its offices; forged invitation cards have been sent to members of the Association in an attempt to involve them in illegal activity against which the West German government would be entitled to take action.

POLICE PASSIVE

Despite all these attacks on Dr. Moser and his associates the Hamburg police have shown no particular interest in the case; and some reports allege that Organisation Consul includes high-ranking members of the police force.

The Bonn authorities, instead of acting to protect the lives and property of a legal trading organisation, has given semi-official support to Organisation Consul by publishing slanderous statements about the private life of leading members of the trade association.

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The original Organisation Consul was founded in May 1920 by Captain Hermann Erhardt, commander of the counter-revolutionary "Marinebrigade Ehrhardt" which played a prominent part in the militarist Kapp Putsch in Berlin in March 1920.

After the putsch had been defeated by the united general strike of all German workers Ehrhardt fled to Munich, where friends in police headquarters issued him with a passport under the alias of Consul von Eschwege. The illegal organisation which he then formed took his false rank of consul as its title.

(continued on p. 3)

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